

Agency's participation in a successful national joint mission to destroy an out-of-control U.S. satellite laden with toxic hydrazine fuel.

General Obering has consistently exemplified a true dedication to our Nation and its ideals. His vision and drive enabled the Missile Defense Agency to field a truly worldwide ballistic missile defense capability that will be a part of this Nation's defensive infrastructure for decades to come. Our Nation owes a debt of gratitude to General Obering for his outstanding leadership and service. I am proud to express my appreciation for his service.●

TRIBUTE TO JAMES HERMAN FAULKNER, SR.

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to James Herman "Jimmy" Faulkner, Sr., a friend, who passed away last month. "Mr. jimmy" to the scores who knew and admired him, was a great Alabamian who, during his life, served as a mayor, State senator, candidate for governor, newspaper publisher, businessman, and philanthropist.

Born in Lamar County, AL, the son of a schoolteacher and a farmer, he lost his father at the age of 12. He attended college in Tennessee and the School of Journalism at the University of Missouri. At age 20, he purchased The Baldwin Times newspaper and moved to Baldwin County, AL, where he lived his life and became one of, if not the most, well known of its citizens.

Mr. Jimmy served as the Mayor of Bay Minette, AL, from 1941 to 1943, when he was called to serve in World War II as a first lieutenant, pilot, and flight instructor. Following that service, he represented Baldwin County in the Alabama State Senate, where he became an advocate for education and the State's teachers.

He served as Chairman of the Board of Directors for Alabama Christian College in Montgomery, and as a testament to his success in putting that institution in a position of financial stability and his personal generosity, it was renamed Faulkner University in his honor in 1985. Remarkably, because he was instrumental in bringing Faulkner State University, a community college, to Baldwin County, that State university is also named for him. Few persons, if any, have had both a private and State university named in their honor.

Mr. Jimmy believed in Baldwin County. He brought business to the county. A friend of his, Scott Hunter, told me that Jimmy told him in 1990 to buy all the real estate he could in Baldwin County because it would double in population by 2010. And it has. Jimmy was able to predict economic, demographic, and political changes with uncanny accuracy. He lived to know 14 Alabama governors and he wrote, "We have had some good ones and some not so good. Because of my longevity, it has been my privilege, and usually my

pleasure, to have known personally, and been on friendly terms, with every governor back to Bibb Graves."

During his lifetime, he served as president and founder of two insurance businesses, and owner and publisher of three newspapers in Baldwin County. He was the recipient of more than 35 awards including 8 honorary doctorate degrees.

Jimmy Faulkner was a great man, and a world traveler who visited over 100 countries during his lifetime. He had a unique view of the entire world and the part of it he occupied, and he used that view and his knowledge to make Alabama and our Nation a better place. Those of us who knew him are all better for having shared his interesting life and benefitted from his brilliant mind.●

COMMENDING THE TOWN OF BELK, ALABAMA

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, today I wish to tell you about the small town of Belk located in Fayette County, AL. While having a relatively small population—205 in 2007—Belk has an abundance of community spirit and people willing to give of their time and energy to make it a better place to live. They exemplify the "can-do, cooperative attitude which made America great.

I visited Belk in August and was inspired by their attitude and approach. They feel greatly blessed to obtain any assistance, and use it along with their own efforts to maximize the benefits to Belk. They have a Volunteer Fire Department with 15 active members that purchased a new fire truck in 2001 with a grant and have since purchased 2 additional pumper-service trucks.

In 2004, they built a fine new Community Center using a grant from the State of Alabama and a loan of \$48,000. Holding a number of fundraising activities, including a gospel singing, silent, auction, golf tournament, and bluegrass festival, they have reduced that loan balance to \$15,230. Every second Friday night they have a bluegrass festival at the center and volunteers donate food to be served in the kitchen. All revenues go to pay on the center's debt and everyone has a wonderful time.

In addition, in 2005 they constructed a community storm shelter using a small grant of \$52,000 from FEMA. The design work was donated by a local contractor, and local tradesmen donated their time to do plumbing, electrical and water line work.

This past spring they built a new outdoor stage using donations from corporations and local businesses for the design and materials, and the labor of local volunteers for the construction.

This is the kind of volunteer effort, self-help, and love of community that I grew up knowing. It is still a common trait of small communities in Alabama, but, frankly, is being lost too often today. Belk has taken on the task of making their piece of America

a better place to live. I would like to commend Mayor Ronald Waldrop, who sets the example, and every citizen who has volunteered their efforts to the greater good. I am truly honored to represent such people. They are men, women, and youth of faith, integrity, and hard work. Such are the people who have made America great.●

HONORING ALVINA ELIZABETH SCHWAB PETTIGREW

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today, out of a sense of pride and gratitude, I wish to recognize the remarkable yet unheralded work of a group of women who quite literally saved innumerable lives and made a notable contribution to the Allied victory during World War II. One might wonder what has taken us so long to honor a group of women whose efforts date back over 65 years. The reason is that the nature of their work was so secret, the women were warned that they could be shot for treason if they ever revealed their activities. And so they didn't. As a result, they never received the recognition they deserved.

I am speaking of the WAVES (Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Service), who played an instrumental role in cracking the complex codes that the Germans used to radio instructions from German headquarters to the submarines that were sinking Allied ships. And when I said I was speaking out of a sense of pride, it is because Alvina Elizabeth Schwab Pettigrew from my home State of South Dakota was among this determined group of heroes.

Alvina was born in 1919 on a farm near Mina, SD. She completed grades 1-8 in a one-room schoolhouse and graduated from Mina High School. She received a scholarship to Grand Island Business College in Nebraska in 1936. But in 1942, this everyday American embarked on a journey that would call her to do extraordinary things in the service of our Nation.

Alvina enlisted in the WAVES in October 1942 and was sent to Stillwater, OK, for 3 months of training. Following graduation, orders arrived for her to report to the Naval Communications Annex in Washington, DC. In nondescript buildings now housing the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, more than 600 WAVES labored secretly in support of the war effort. German U-boats had been sinking Allied ships at alarming rates. Between January and March 1942, the Germans sank 216 ships off the east coast alone. But the Americans, improving on cryptological breakthroughs by the Poles and the British, finally cracked the German codes. The WAVES were the ones who actually operated the machines that deciphered the codes. They had the German U-boat fleet fighting for its life. The WAVES ran the machines around the clock. The noise was head-splitting, the summer heat sweltering. But they forged ahead, knowing that American lives were at stake.

Although one could argue that the honor does not begin to match the magnitude of the achievement, Alvina and the other WAVES are being recognized through a public arts project in the Cathedral Heights neighborhood of Washington, DC. A turn-of-the-century "call box" that once housed fire emergency equipment will contain a portrait of Alvina Schwab Pettigrew and a description of what the WAVES did in the Navy Annex just 200 yards away. It is a lasting tribute to the women who turned the tide on the Germans and helped the Allied forces win the war. I am proud that a South Dakotan is being honored in this way and that I am able to convey to Alvina and the WAVES a belated thank-you from a most grateful Nation.●

REPORT TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF PRODUCTION OF THE NAVAL PETROLEUM RESERVES FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS FROM APRIL 5, 2009—PM 65

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with section 7422(c)(2) of title 10, United States Code, I am informing you of my decision to extend the period of production of the Naval Petroleum Reserves for a period of 3 years from April 5, 2009, the expiration date of the currently authorized period of production.

Attached is a copy of the report investigating continued production of the Reserves, consistent with section 7422(c)(2)(B) of title 10. In light of the findings contained in the report, I certify that continued production from the Naval Petroleum Reserves is in the national interest.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, October 2, 2008.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 12:45 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Zapata, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HOYER) has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 431. An act to require convicted sex offenders to register online identifiers, and for other purposes.

S. 906. An act to prohibit the sale, distribution, transfer, and export of elemental mercury, and for other purposes.

S. 1276. An act to facilitate the creation of methamphetamine precursor electronic log-book systems, and for other purposes.

S. 1492. An act to improve the quality of federal and state data regarding the availability and quality of broadband services and to promote the deployment of affordable broadband services to all parts of the Nation.

S. 1582. An act to reauthorize and amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1738. An act to require the Department of Justice to develop and implement a National Strategy Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction, to improve the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, to increase resources for regional computer forensic labs, and to make other improvements to increase the ability of law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute child predators.

S. 2304. An act to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide grants for the improved mental health treatment and services provided to offenders with mental illnesses, and for other purposes.

S. 2816. An act to provide for the appointment of the Chief Human Capital Officer of the Department of Homeland Security by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

S. 3015. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 18 S. G Street, Lakeview, Oregon, as the "Dr. Bernard Daly Post Office Building".

S. 3082. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1700 Cleveland Avenue in Kansas City, Missouri, as the "Reverend Earl Abel Post Office Building".

S. 3128. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to provide a loan to the White Mountain Apache Tribe for use in planning, engineering, and designing a certain water system project.

S. 3296. An act to extend the authority of the United States Supreme Court Police to protect court officials off the Supreme Court Grounds and change the title of the Administrative Assistant to the Chief Justice.

S. 3325. An act to enhance remedies for violations of intellectual property laws, and for other purposes.

S. 3477. An act to amend title 44, United States Code, to authorize grants for Presidential Centers of Historical Excellence.

S. 3536. An act to amend section 5402 of title 39, United States Code, to modify the authority relating to United States Postal Service air transportation contracts, and for other purposes.

S. 3550. An act to designate a portion of the Rappahannock River in the Commonwealth of Virginia as the "John W. Warner Rapids".

S. 3569. An act to make improvements in the operation and administration of the Federal courts, and for other purposes.

S. 3598. An act to amend titles 46 and 18, United States Code, with respect to the operation of submersible vessels and semi-submersible vessels without nationality.

S. 3605. An act to extend the pilot program for volunteer groups to obtain criminal history background checks.

S. 3606. An act to extend the special immigrant nonminister religious worker program and for other purposes.

H.R. 928. An act to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to enhance the independence of the Inspectors General, to create a Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1532. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to making progress toward the goal of eliminating tuberculosis, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2786. An act to reauthorize the programs for housing assistance for Native Americans.

H.R. 2963. An act to transfer certain land in Riverside County, California, and San Diego County, California, from the Bureau of Land Management to the United States to be held in trust for the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5350. An act to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to sell or exchange certain National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration property located in Norfolk, Virginia, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5618. An act to reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College Program Act, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6098. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to improve the financial assistance provided to State, local, and tribal governments for information sharing activities, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6849. An act to amend the commodity provisions of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to permit producers to aggregate base acres and reconstitute farms to avoid the prohibition on receiving direct payments, counter-cyclical payments, or average crop revenue election payments when the sum of the base acres of a farm is 10 acres or less, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 160. An act to amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to establish a battlefield acquisition grant program for the acquisition and protection of nationally significant battlefields and associated sites of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 642. To establish the Honorable Stephanie Tubbs Jones Fire Suppression Demonstration Incentive Program within the Department of Education to promote installation of fire sprinkler systems, or other fire suppression or prevention technologies, in qualified student housing and dormitories, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 1485. An act for the relief of Esther Karinge; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 2535. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility and suitability of constructing a storage reservoir, outlet works, and a delivery system for the Tule River Indian Tribe of California to provide a water supply for domestic, municipal, industrial, and agricultural purposes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2583. An act to amend title VII of the Public Health Service Act to establish a loan program for eligible hospitals to establish residency training programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 2994. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to pain care; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 3018. An act to provide for payment of an administrative fee to public housing agencies to cover the costs of administering family self-sufficiency programs in connection with the housing choice voucher program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 3019. An act to establish an Office of Housing Counseling to carry out and coordinate the responsibilities of the Department of Housing and Urban Development regarding counseling on homeownership and rental housing issues, to make grants to entities for providing such counseling, to launch a national housing counseling advertising campaign, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 3036. To reauthorize and enhance the National Environmental Education Act, and